



Attention all charities, voluntary organisations, community groups, nonprofits, charitable trusts and societies

REGISTER NOW

Are you a Charity?

Yes if...

- You have exclusively charitable purposes
- Operate in the Republic of Ireland
- Provide clear public benefit, in this country or elsewhere

Regardless of your size, your income or your legal structure, by law you **MUST** apply for registration as a charity by **16 April 2016**. Don't worry: the registration process is relatively straightforward and we can help you if you get stuck.

What are "charitable purposes"?

"Charitable purposes" are those for:

- The prevention or relief of poverty or economic hardship
- The advancement of education
- The advancement of religion
- Any other purpose that is of benefit to the community

"Any other purpose that is of benefit to the community" is a broad category that includes the integration of the disadvantaged, the promotion of health and voluntary work and the advancement of: community welfare and development, environmental protection and sustainability, racial and religious integration, conflict resolution, animal welfare, and the arts.

What does "public benefit" mean?

A charitable purpose must be of public benefit which means that it must be beneficial in an identifiable way to the general public or a section of the public.

Important things to check first

Did you have CHY status from Revenue prior to 16 October 2014?

If so, you were deemed registered, but please double-check [here](#) to make sure. You must complete more details for the public register and submit your first annual report by 16 April 2016. Contact us if you experience any difficulties.

You already applied for registration

If you are waiting to hear from us, and have documentation to show this, you do not need to do anything else for now.

Are you a school?

If so, you do need to register, we are working with the Department of Education and Skills on a simple method and will be contacting you directly via your official school email address.

Are you a branch or affiliate of a national organisation?

Check with your head office first to see if you are required to register. In some cases you will and in others you won't. Do NOT assume that you don't have to register.

Some organisations cannot apply to be a Charity

- Approved bodies for the sole purpose of the promotion of athletic or amateur games or sports (See Section 235 of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997)
- Organisations set up for private benefit
- Trade unions, Chambers of commerce or political parties.
- Organisations promoting a political cause (unless their political activity relates solely to advancing their charitable purposes, in which case they should register).



Benefits of being a Registered Charity

Becoming a registered charity does not only mean that you will be complying with the law.

You will also:

- Demonstrate that you operate to high standards of governance and administration
- Highlight your commitment to transparency and accountability
- Be in a better position to retain and attract statutory funding and contracts
- Provide a sound basis for donors and volunteers to support you
- Find it easier to secure permits for on-street collections
- Be able to apply to Revenue for charitable tax exempt status and associated benefits
- Play your part in rebuilding trust and confidence in the charities sector

What should I do now?

- Ensure members of your board or committee discuss charity registration today.
- Check your Status on the [Register of Charities](#)
- Follow the 3 Steps below- Our User Guides can help you [here](#)

Yes we are on the Register of Charities already

- Use your PIN Number from the Charities Regulator to access your online account.
- Complete your details for the Register and submit
- Check your information is up-to-date and make your first annual return.

No, we are not on the Register of Charities

- [Apply for an account](#) with us online. We will then send you security information that you can use to create your account
- Begin completing your application form online and provide us with the information required
- Finalise and submit your Application

If you are unclear about anything whatsoever, [contact us](#) without delay.

We are here to help you.

Remember the deadline for registration is 16 April 2016.

